

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO**

**AMPARO MATA and  
ROBERT MATA,  
as parents of M.M., a minor child,**

**Plaintiffs,**

**vs.**

**No. 12-cv-0136 MCA/SMV**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
LAS CRUCES PUBLIC SCHOOLS,**

**Defendant.**

**ORDER SETTING SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE**

THIS MATTER is before the Court on the Rule 16 Scheduling Conference, held on April 11, 2012. To facilitate a final disposition of this case, a mandatory Settlement Conference will be conducted in accordance with Rule 16(a)(5) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The conference will be held on **Monday, July 2, 2012, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Pecos Courtroom on the third floor of the Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse at 333 Lomas Boulevard Northwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The parties or a designated representative, other than counsel of record, with full authority to resolve the case, must attend in person. Counsel who will try the case must also attend in person.

No later than **June 18, 2012**, Plaintiffs shall serve on Defendant a letter setting forth at least the following information: (a) a brief summary of the evidence and legal principles that Plaintiffs assert will allow them to establish liability; (b) a brief explanation of why damages or other relief would be warranted; (c) an itemization of the principles supporting those damages; and (d) a

settlement demand.<sup>1</sup> No later than **June 22, 2012**, Defendant shall serve on Plaintiffs a letter that sets forth at least the following information: (a) any points in Plaintiffs' letter with which the defense agrees; (b) any points in Plaintiffs' letter with which the defense disagrees, with references to supporting evidence and legal principles; and (c) a counteroffer.<sup>2</sup> If a release is contemplated, defense counsel shall include a proposed form of release with the letter. Each of these letters typically should be five pages or fewer, and counsel must ensure that each party reads the opposing party's letter before the Settlement Conference. If the case does not settle, Plaintiffs shall provide copies of these letters to the Court no later than **5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2012**.

No later than **5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2012**, each party must provide the Court, in confidence, a concise position statement (typically no more than ten pages) containing an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of its case. Position statements must be submitted to the Court by e-mail at **VidmarChambers@nmcourt.fed.us**.

Furthermore, if any party has in its possession any video or audio recordings of the incident upon which this action is based, that party must submit a copy of the recording to the Court no later than **5:00 p.m. on June 25, 2012**.

The Settlement Conference may not be vacated or rescheduled except upon motion for good cause shown. Any motion to vacate or reschedule the Settlement Conference shall provide the Court with sufficient notice to ensure that other matters may be scheduled in the time allotted for the Settlement Conference.

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<sup>1</sup> If the parties have engaged in settlement negotiations, Plaintiffs' demand should be lower than Plaintiffs' most recent demand.

<sup>2</sup> If the parties have engaged in settlement negotiations, Defendant's counteroffer should be higher than Defendant's most recent counteroffer.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** as follows:

**Plaintiffs' letter and settlement demand due  
to Defendant:**

**June 18, 2012**

**Defendant's letter and counteroffer  
due to Plaintiffs:**

**June 22, 2012**

**Plaintiffs provide copies of settlement letters  
to the Court by:**

**June 25, 2012, by 5:00 p.m.**

**Plaintiffs' confidential position statement due to  
the Court:**

**June 25, 2012, by 5:00 p.m.**

**Defendant's confidential position statement due  
to the Court:**

**June 25, 2012, by 5:00 p.m.**

**Settlement Conference:**

**July 2, 2012, at 9:00 a.m.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**



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**STEPHAN M. VIDMAR**  
**United States Magistrate Judge**